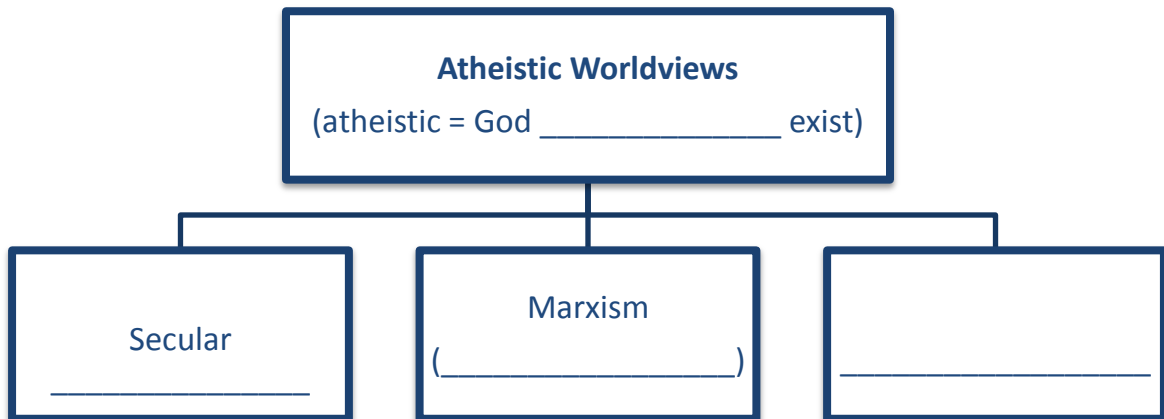
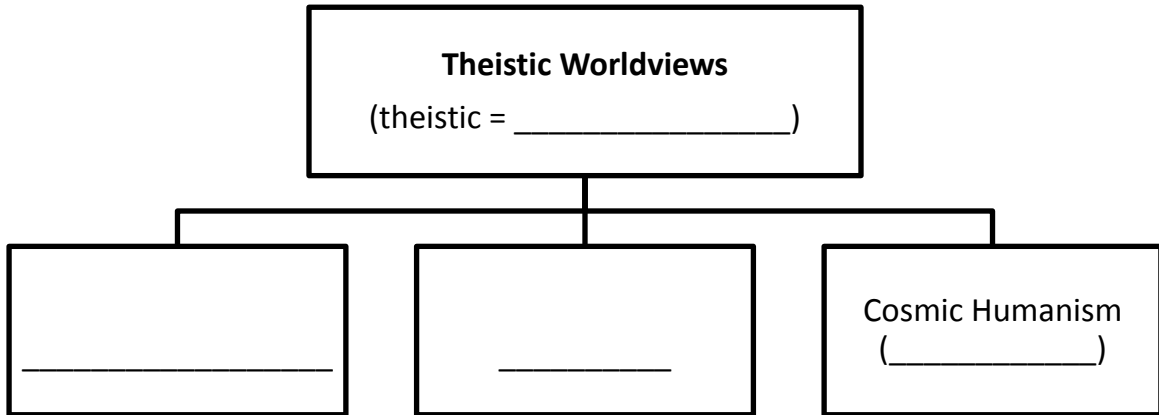


## Understanding the Time Times: Theology Unit

Theology = the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (Greek 'theos,' *God* + 'logos,' *study/treatment of*)



### Christian Theology

1. God is **supernatural** (\_\_\_\_\_ the natural)
2. God is **trinity** (three-in-one—called *Trinitarian* \_\_\_\_\_)
  - a. Father
  - b. Son
  - c. Holy Spirit
3. God is \_\_\_\_\_ and wants to be \_\_\_\_\_
4. God has \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Examples (there are many more we could list)

- a. \_\_\_\_\_

- b. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_
5. God is **sovereign** (He does not have to seek \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_)
  6. God is \_\_\_\_\_ (in the struggle between right and wrong, he is always right)
  7. God is **longsuffering** (He puts up with a lot of junk in this world because he has granted us \_\_\_\_\_ and allows to reap the consequences of it.)
  8. God is **patient** (This is different from longsuffering. Being patient, he can \_\_\_\_\_.)
  9. God is \_\_\_\_\_ (He is always there.)
  10. God is **powerful** (In fact, he is \_\_\_\_\_—all-powerful.)
  11. Sources of knowledge about God
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_ revelation—God’s communication about his presence and power
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_ revelation—God’s more specific communication about his character and will
  12. How does one “please God?”
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_ sinfulness and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior
    - b. Ephesians 2:8-9—For it is by \_\_\_\_\_ you have been saved, through \_\_\_\_\_—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by \_\_\_\_\_, so that no one can boast.
    - c. Learn to live in accordance with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible.

### Islamic Theology

1. God is supernatural (beyond the natural)
2. God is \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_ monotheism)
  - a. There is no trinity
  - b. Christians are viewed as \_\_\_\_\_ (believing in more than on God)

- c. *Shirk*—the one unforgiveable sin in Islam—associating \_\_\_\_\_ with God
3. God has revealed his will through \_\_\_\_\_ (all of whom taught Islam)
  - a. Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, and Jesus were all prophets who gave revelations from God which were recorded as Scriptures (mainly the OT & NT). They spoke to specific \_\_\_\_\_ in specific \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ was the last and greatest prophet.
4. Similarities between Islamic and Christian theism
  - a. God \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. God \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. God has revealed his \_\_\_\_\_ through prophets.
  - d. All humans are \_\_\_\_\_ for sin.
5. Islam views itself as the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christianity just as Christianity is the fulfillment of \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Sources of knowledge
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_—Islam’s holy book. Muslim’s believe it to be the most accurate and \_\_\_\_\_ revelation from God. It was revealed to Muhammad—the final prophet of humanity.
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_—The recorded teachings, rulings, and actions of Muhammad as recorded by his early associates. Muslims believe they are inspired by God and are to be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_—The works of noted \_\_\_\_\_ of Islam (both Muslim and non-Muslim)
7. How does one please God?
  - a. Islam’s 5 pillars
    - i. Confession of faith—“There is no God but \_\_\_\_\_ and Muhammad is his prophet.” (If a person makes this confession with a sincere heart and mind, then he/she is a Muslim.)
    - ii. Prayer—Muslims are expected to pray \_\_\_\_\_ times a day facing Mecca. On Fridays, Muslim men (and sometimes women) are expected to attend noon prayers at a \_\_\_\_\_.

- iii. Fasting—This is done during the month of \_\_\_\_\_. It involves abstinence from food, smoking, and sex during daylight hours.
- iv. Almsgiving—Muslims are to give \_\_\_\_\_% of their annual income to help the poor.
- v. Pilgrimage—All Muslims are expected to travel to \_\_\_\_\_ once in their lifetime if their health and finances allow them to do so.

**Possible 6<sup>th</sup> Pillar**

- vi. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. The battle against \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for the sake of self-control.
  - 2. The battle against any and all who \_\_\_\_\_ Islam.
- b. There is no \_\_\_\_\_ of salvation.

**Cosmic Humanist (New Age Movement) Theology**

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_: All that exists is God; God is all that exists.
  - a. God is a \_\_\_\_\_ not a personal God.
  - b. This leads naturally to the concept of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the individual, that we are all gods.
  - c. They do not seek God as revealed in a sacred text or as exists in a remote heaven; they seek God \_\_\_\_\_ and throughout the entire universe.
    - i. Each person is God (can get in touch with his/her \_\_\_\_\_ godhood)
    - ii. Truth is discovered by inner soul-searching (\_\_\_\_\_).
- 2. Reincarnation: After death, you are \_\_\_\_\_ and live another life as a human. This cycle repeats itself many times. You have certain challenges to face and overcome in this lifetime. If you don't learn your lessons this time, you'll get them again.
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_: The good and bad deeds that we do add and subtract from our accumulated \_\_\_\_\_—karma. At the end of our life, we are rewarded or

- punished according to our karma by being reincarnated into either a painful or good new life. This belief is linked to that of reincarnation.
4. It seeks the highest attainment of human \_\_\_\_\_.
  5. It is characterized by an \_\_\_\_\_ approach to spiritual practices while rejecting religious doctrine and \_\_\_\_\_.

### Secular Humanist Theology

1. Defining Secular Humanism
  - a. *Secular*—of or pertaining to \_\_\_\_\_ things or to things that are not regarded as religious, spiritual, or sacred; temporal (pertaining to or concerned with the \_\_\_\_\_ life or this world)
  - b. *Humanism*—the belief that humanity is the \_\_\_\_\_ of all beings and that truth and knowledge rest in \_\_\_\_\_ and human \_\_\_\_\_
2. Atheism—there is no God
  - a. The supernatural (anything outside of nature) \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. “We find insufficient evidence for belief in the existence of a supernatural; it is either \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ to the question of the survival and fulfillment of the human race. As non-theists, we begin with humans not God, nature not deity....we can discover no divine \_\_\_\_\_ or providence for the human species. While there is much that we do not know, humans are responsible for what we are or will become No deity will save us; we must save ourselves.” (*Humanist Manifesto II*)
  - c. Humanity is the \_\_\_\_\_ authority.
3. Sources
  - a. Humanist Manifesto I (1933)
  - b. Humanist Manifesto II (1973)
  - c. Humanist Manifesto III (2000)

### Marxist-Leninist Theology

1. Defining Marxism and Marxism-Leninism
  - a. *Marxism*  
the system of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ thought developed by Karl Marx, along with Friedrich Engels, especially the doctrine that the state throughout history has been a device for the exploitation of the masses by a dominant class, that \_\_\_\_\_ has been the main source of historical change, and that the capitalist system will inevitably (after the period of

the dictatorship of the proletariat) be superseded by a socialist order and a \_\_\_\_\_ society.<sup>1</sup> (*proletariat*—the class of \_\_\_\_\_, especially industrial wage earners, who do not possess capital or property and must sell their labor to survive<sup>2</sup>)

b. *Marxism-Leninism*

The doctrines of Marxism as applied by Lenin (a founder of the \_\_\_\_\_) to the building of Marxist \_\_\_\_\_. With Karl Marx, Lenin called for a classless society in which all means of production would be commonly owned (communism). Unlike some Marxists, however, Lenin stressed bold, \_\_\_\_\_ action and insisted that a strong Communist party would be needed in a Marxist nation to direct the efforts of the workers. Lenin also argued that capitalist nations resort to aggressive moves as they decline and that Marxist nations must therefore be prepared for \_\_\_\_\_. Eventually, rigid governmental structures will not be necessary<sup>3</sup>

2. Atheism

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ is God. Humanity created God in its own image and created religion in order to worship itself.
- b. Mankind must take control of reality and \_\_\_\_\_ as he sees fit.
- c. "Religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature; the sentiment of a heartless world....It is the opium of the masses." (Karl Marx)
- d. Marxism is "positively \_\_\_\_\_ to all religion." (Vladimir Lenin)

3. Marxism and Atheism

- a. To be a Marxist means to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. To be a good Marxist means \_\_\_\_\_ atheism.
- c. To be the best Marxist means to strive to \_\_\_\_\_ all religious sentiment.

4. Sources

- a. *Communist Manifesto* (Karl Marx and Fredrick Engels)
- b. Works of Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin, Fredrick Engels, and Mao Zedong

---

<sup>1</sup> "Marxism." *Dictionary.com Unabridged*. Random House, Inc. 01 Oct. 2009. <[Dictionary.com http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Marxism](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Marxism)>.

<sup>2</sup> "proletariat." *Dictionary.com Unabridged*. Random House, Inc. 01 Oct. 2009. <[Dictionary.com http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/proletariat](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/proletariat)>.

<sup>3</sup> "marxism-leninism." *The American Heritage® New Dictionary of Cultural Literacy, Third Edition*. Houghton Mifflin Company, 2005. 01 Oct. 2009. <[Dictionary.com http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/marxism-leninism](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/marxism-leninism)>.

## Postmodernist Theology

### 1. Defining Postmodernism

- a. Postmodernism is "post" because it is after modernism. It denies the existence of any \_\_\_\_\_ principles and it lacks the \_\_\_\_\_ of there being a scientific, philosophical, or religious truth which will explain everything for everybody—a characteristic of the...“modern” mind.
- b. Pre-modern to Post-modern eras
  - i. In the pre-modern era \_\_\_\_\_, revelation, and the \_\_\_\_\_ were the ultimate sources about reality.
  - ii. In the modern era \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were the ultimate sources about reality.
  - iii. In the post-modern era the ultimate sources about reality are one’s \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and preferences.
- c. A skeptical movement
  - i. Skeptical of \_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. Skeptical of a foundation for \_\_\_\_\_ (ultimately words are not loaded with meaning, they are merely interpreted by individuals)
  - iii. Skeptical of all \_\_\_\_\_ (big stories explaining all of reality)

### 2. Atheism

- a. Religious beliefs are merely matters of \_\_\_\_\_ (as opposed to actually being true or false)
- b. Religious \_\_\_\_\_—we must be tolerant of all religious beliefs because no one religion can be true.
- c. Christianity, Islam, and Judaism are not tolerated because they dare to make \_\_\_\_\_ truth claims.

### 3. Deconstruction

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ have no inherent meaning.
- b. The author’s \_\_\_\_\_ means nothing in light of the reader’s interpretation.

### 4. Sources—the writings of Friedrich Nietzsche, Michael Foucault, Jacques Derrida, and Richard Rorty